BOROUGH AND PORT OF SANDWICH

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

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Mayor: Councillor R.J.Sage

Chairman - Public Health Committee

Councillor A. Mottershead

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1967

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Public Health: Meat Inspector: W. F. Wilkinson,C.R.S.I.

Clerk: Miss E.V.Miles.

Shorthand Typist: Miss B. Copping.

Town Clerk: Barrie Roberts Esq. Borough Treasurer: E.O.Jordan, B.E.M.

Medical Officer of Health: Malcolm S. Harvey, M.B., ChB., D.P.H. F.R.S.H.

Deputy M.O.H. Major General James Leslie Gordon, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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THE BOROUGH OF SANDWICH 1967

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
The Borough of Sandwich

The year on public health matters in Sandwich in 1967 is presented.

Sandwich Borough remains stable in population but not in development. The town has had a population varying between 4550 and 4590 for the last 10 years. It is recorded in mid 1967 as 4590. Nevertheless, new dwellings are being built each year and old dwellings are being preserved by improvement grants or otherwise. The Council has set itself against demolition of old houses in Sandwich unless inevitable. This is on occasions achieved by re-housing existing tenants and imposing a closing order pending rehabilitation of the structure and improvement of the amenities. The Council took upon itself the task of preserving houses in Knightrider Street by purchase, repair and up-grading and these were re-occupied during 1967. By this policy you have sought to preserve old Sandwich.

The development of the Stonar estate, the disused RAF camp north of the river, made great strides during the year,and with the employment that this brings and the greater interest in local residences associated with it there may well develop as a result a more balanced distribution of age grouping in the population. At present the town population of 4590 persons records births in number appropriate to a population of 3140 persons and deaths in number appropriate to a population of 5714 persons which illustrates the loading of elderly persons in the community.

There were 1577 rateable dwellings in the Borough excluding the 53 commercial and business residences. Out of this number 411 dwellings were Council houses and 9 were other Council owned properties.

The Port ceased to function commercially except for Richborough Wharf where coastal vessels landed oil supplies direct to local factories. The Town Quay and Stonar area are now used only by small pleasure craft many of whom moved here from Dover Harbour and Ramsgate: from the former because of mooring restrictions and from the latter because of hovercraft activity.

The Slaughterhouse continued to make heavy demands on the Public Health Inspector for meat inspection.

As indicated on the tables and statements that follow it was a Measles year.

If the year had any particular characteristic it was that much development was talked about, especially developing a better sewage disposal arrangement, but there was little to show for the talk by the end of it.

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Medical Officer of Health

SANDWICH 1967:

Vital Statistics:

Population mid year - 4,590 persons.

Births -	Male	27
	Female	27
	Total:-	54

Born outside marriage: 4 (7.4%)

Birth rate: 11.8 per 1000 persons

Adjusted for population: 13.9

Stillbirths: NIL

There were no Infant Deaths during the year.

(England, Wales: Birth Rate: 17.2. Death Rate: 11.2)

Deaths -	Male	28
	Female	38
	Total:-	66

Death rate: 14.4 per 1000 population.

Adjusted for population: 11.2

Death rates for separate causes would be misleading for such small numbers and are considered in a subsequent report on the basis of a number of years.

Infectious Diseases

There were no notified cases of Scarlet Fever in the Borough or Port during the year. One case of Poliomyelitis; 98 cases of Measles and 6 cases of Whooping Cough were notified. The following table shows the distribution over the year according to age grouping.

Notifiable Diseases Notified 1967	Acute Poliomyelitis	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentry
Quarter 1	-	98	-	-
" 2	-	-	1	-
" 3	1	-	5	1
" 4	-	-	-	-
Total:-	1	98	6	1

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Infectious Diseases: (Cont'd)

Notifiable Diseases Notified. 1967	Acute Poliomyelitis	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentry
Age: Under 1 year.	-	-	1	-
1 - 4	-	52	4	-
5 - 9	1	46	2	1
10 -14	-	-	-	-
15 +	-	-	-	-
Total 1967:-	1	98	7	1

Tuberculosis:

The Register at the beginning and end of the year was as shown:-

31/12/66	Pulmonary:	Male	3
		Female	9
	Non-Pulmonary:	Male	1
		Female	1
31/12/67	Pulmonary:	Male	3
		Female	6
	Non Pulmonary:	Male	1
		Female	1

Three female and one male pulmonary cases were removed from the Register as recovered. One male pulmonary case transferred into the Borough on discharge from a Chest Unit, having been diagnosed and notified elsewhere. No new cases of tuberculosis originated in the town.

The Mass Radiography Unit carried out a public survey during the year and examined 1012 persons at the Guildhall Carpark site - 209 in the local Grammar School and 2177 persons on the Borough Industrial Estate. No new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered at the visit: 16 inactive cases and one lung cancer were notified.

Water Supplies:

Thanet Water Board are responsible for source and distribution to the town with water coming from Woodnesborough source which is a

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deep chalk source approached through a bowl of sandy overlay through which some percolation can occur into the chalk. Samples taken by the Water Board after heavy rainfall indicate that the sewage disposal arrangements in the Beacon Lane area of Woodnesborough, where cesspools tend to overflow at such times, present a potential hazard to the supply. This hazard is screened by chlorination of the water supply at source with good contact time in the Beacon Hill storage reservoir, and twenty-five samples taken by the Public Health Inspector showed the mains supply to be a good and safe water. In the Richborough area the mains supply is linked with the Ramsgate system under the same Water Board.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

A public enquiry into the proposals for a new system of sewage disposal was awaited. The sewers in the town, and the pumps that maintain the flow, experienced troubles which will be dealt with in these proposals. The River Authority have determined that any improvement (which will discontinue the few haphazard discharges of sewage - either storm water overflows or otherwise - directly into the River Stour and direct them into a controlled system of discharge) is a new system. They have, therefore, through the County Planning Authority limited new housing development pending completion of the scheme to prevent any increase in the volume of of sewage discharged to the river. Oddly enough, this reflects on the possibility of better protection for the source of the town's water supply source by a sewage scheme for the area in the Rural District overlying that source. The proposed sewage disposal arrangement was to be by long sea outfall after comminution of solids, the outfall to be off Sandwich Bay, and storm water discharge to the River Stour below the Borough.

Supervision of Food Supplies

There were 54 food premises in the area subject to inspection by the Public Health Inspector and 30 of these were registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act 1955.

No dairies remain in the Borough but there were 7 distributors of bottled milk. Milk sampling is co-ordinated with the districts of origin of these bottled supplies and 15 samples of pasturized milk were taken in the Borough of which all passed the test for keeping quality and evidence of adequate pasturisation.

Meat inspection is carried out at 100% level in the local slaughterhouse. It is of note to record that no tuberculous cattle were identified. There is no killing of horses or a knackers yard in the Borough.

Supervision of Food Supplies (Cont'd)

/Borough.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE INSPECTIONS (100%)

	Cattle(Mainly Cows)	Calves	Sheep. Lambs.	Pigs.
No.Slaughtered	2308(301)	531	10,550	12,085
Whole carcases condemned(except TB & Cysticerci)	11	1	59	27
Condemned in part	332(47)	1	184	840
% affected	14.2	0.2	1.7	6.9
Condemned for TB. Whole carcases	-	-	-	-
In part	-	-	-	130
% with TB	-	-	-	0.93
Condemned for Cysticerci	8	-	-	-
Submitted for Refrigeration	8	-	-	-
Totally Condemned	NIL	-	-	-

Ice Cream Supervision

There are now no makers of ice cream in the Borough and no purveyors of soft ice cream, all being handled in prepacked containers brought into the town. Samples proved satisfactory.

Housing

One house containing one dwelling was closed displacing one family of 3 persons. Nine houses which were considered to be unfit were made fit by informal action by the owners. There were no clearance areas under consideration.

Twenty-three Improvement Grants amounting to a total of £5,508 led to the improvement of 23 houses during the year.

Caravans

The one caravan site in the Borough provided 100 sites none of

Caravans (Cont'd)

/of
which were permanent all the year round sites.

Section 47 National Assistance Act

No orders were sought under these powers. One case of a shed dweller in the Port and Haven area was investigated and found to be a private boat owner living rough during repairs and causing some local nuisance from rubbish. The practice was stopped.

Factory Act Inspection

The factories registered at the end of 1967 were as follows, with inspections made during the year shown:-

Local Authority Enforcement Under	On Request	Inspections
Factories: Under Sections 1,2,3,4,6.	1	1
" Under Section 7 (not included above)	1	1
Other Premises: Under Section 7 (excluding Outworkers)	40	25
Total:-	42	27

It was not found necessary to serve notices on any premises concerning defects, and in no case was a reference made to the Factory Inspectorate.

Port Health Supervision - Report:

The report on the Port and Haven of Sandwich for 1967 was as follows:-

STAFF: G.T.Rowlands, C.R.S.I. - Port Health Inspector(included in other duties in the Borough)

Address and telephone number of Medical Officer of Health:
Dr. M. S. Harvey, M.B., ChB., D.P.H. F.R.S.H.
Office: 15a Dane John, Canterbury. Canterbury 64411.
Home: The Gables, Stodmarsh Road, Canterbury. Canterbury 63391.

GENERAL: The Port ceased during the year to function commercially except in the Richborough area where coastal boats landed oil fuel for local factories.

The port at the Town Quay and Stonar(between the Town Quay and Richborough Quay) has been taken over by small craft which have moved from Dover Harbour because of mooring limitations and from Ramsgate because of the hovercraft activity.

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GENERAL (Cont'd)

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II/III Seven Coastal oil barges landed 4,588 tons of oil at Richborough during 1967. No other traffic used the Port.

Twenty-six small craft have used the port for long term mooring at the eighteen berths, and one sunk craft.

IV-XV No infectious diseases occurred in ships or small craft in the Port. One death occurred from heart failure and Chronic Bronchitis (post mortem examination) on board a small craft.

Customs Waterguard board from Ramsgate.

Water Supply

Mains supply (Thanet Water Board) is available to ships and small craft at Richborough, Stonar Boat Yard and the Town Quay.

Fourteen water samples taken in the Town and at Pfizers (Head Tank) were all satisfactory.

Sanitary Arrangements

Toilets are available on the Town Quay and facilities are available at Richborough Wharf.

Mortuary

The Ramsgate Mortuary is used by Sandwich Borough.

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